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# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1896.

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## PROPOSED LEGISLATION IN REGARD TO THE METRIC SYSTEM.

WE have received from Professor J. K. Rees, Secretary of the American Metrological Society: (1) The Report submitted to the House of Representatives on March 16th, by Mr. Chas W. Stone, from the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures. (2) A copy of the bill reported unanimously by the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures of the House. (3) A letter addressed by the American Metrological Society to persons interested in the Metric System. (4) A petition form to be signed by any and all persons favoring the bill. The Secretary will be glad to supply copies of the petition to those who will obtain signatures. In order to keep a record of all signers, the Society requests that a duplicate list be sent to the office of the Society at Columbia University, New York.

## INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSION OF THE REPORT SUBMITTED BY MR. STONE.

Almost the only power clearly and expressly vested in Congress by the Constitution which has remained practically unexercised to the present day is that of fixing the standard of weights and measures. This power is conferred in the fifth clause of Section VIII. of Article 1, which enumerates among the powers of Congress "to coin money, regulate the value thereof and of foreign coins, and fix the standard of